



April 1996

Volume XXIII Issue 4

CLIFF HANGERS

Volume I



Spring has sprung and off we go into April. The FWRC is off and running with our spring banquet coming up May 10th. We'll have plenty of good food on hand. Bring along a covered dish. The club will furnish the main courses, drinks and table service. Don't forget to mark this date on your calendar. Bring along a good appetite. Our guest speakers will be Jennifer Trich and Nancy Roger from WGL's Talk Radio. Don't miss out on the food and fun! A BIG THANK-YOU goes out to Bill Hall WD9HII and Francis Barr W9ETT. They were the "top cats" in organizing the FWRC booth at this years Sports Vacation and Boat Show. Our booth was outstanding thanks to their efforts and the many other FWRC members who volunteered to help make this project a great success.

The FWRC is heading east. That's right, east to Dayton Ohio for the mother of all hamfests. The Dayton Hamvention. At this time our 47 passenger deluxe tour bus is filled to capacity. If you are one of those 47, watch for your confirmation in the mail soon. And then, get ready for a good time!

Have you ever traveled through a large airport such as Chicago's O'hare and was curious how on earth all of those aircraft can land and take off without colliding with each other? It takes a lot of coordination and skill from some of our top notch air traffic controllers. Have you heard on the news lately that

our computer systems in our major airports are behind in technology? Are the sky's really safe? These questions and more will be answered and more at this months FWRC meeting. Our guest speaker will be Air Traffic Control Supervisor Kevin Fry. Kevin is in charge of Air Traffic Control at Ft Wayne's International Airport. This is a program you don't want to miss. This Friday night, April 19, 1996 at 7:30pm, Salem Church on Lake Ave. That wraps it up for this months Cliff Hanger. I'll see you on the radio. 73' Saloon for Now'

Cliffie N9MKB

March 1996 Minutes



The following are the recorded minutes of the Fort Wayne Radio Club:

The March meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Salem Church of Christ on 15 March, 1996. President Cliff Shreve presided, there were about 35 people present and the meeting started about 19:45 hours. The February minutes were read and there was one correction. The date of the Dayton Hamvention and thus the chartered bus is 18 May, not 14 May. Treasurer Carl Rittenhouse gave a Treasurers report as follows. As of 15 March, 1996 the General account had a balance of \$7507.33 (including \$743.50 in the Ladies account). The Hamfest account had a balance of \$1150.00, while the Repeater account had a balance of \$2354.44. Cliff reported that 43 of the 47 available seats on the Dayton bus charter had been sold. If enough additional

interest was forthcoming, Cliff would consider renting a larger bus (59 seats) that would include a lounge. Deadline for sign-up for the bus was established as 15 April. Dave Beltz gave an update of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club Hamfest activities. Bill and Becky Stockglazer have produced a first class flyer, and we need to have it distributed far and wide. The tickets have been redesigned and sent to the printer. The Hamfest Committee will meet next month to work out prize details. And Dave is busy trading mailing lists with other clubs. Francis Barr announced that after investigating the possibility of a tour of the VOA transmitter site north of Cincinnati, he determined that the site is no longer in operation and is closed. Thus a tour of the facility will not be possible. Cliff noted that the Spring Banquet is scheduled for 10 May, one week before Dayton. After considerable discussion, it was (voted) that the club would provide catered chicken and meatballs plus soda and coffee. Club members attending would be expected to bring in a covered dish. The entertainment would be provided by WGL personalities Jennifer Trich and Nancy Rodger. During the meeting Cliff got a report via 2-meter radio from Bill Hall who was manning the FWRC booth at the Sports Vacation & Boat Show running that weekend at the Coliseum. Various club members were taking turns at 2-hour shifts running the booth. Following the business meeting Cliff turned the floor over to Jim and Greg Jones who provided us a presentation on the history of computers with a focus upon personal computers. Jim and Greg run the Computer Net that has just started business on the Murphy Repeater.

*Respectively submitted,
Al Burke, WB9SSE*

HAMSPLATTER

Fort Wayne
Radio Club
Since 1920

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Old Tyme Chatter

-Ted Clifton, W9TC

Now that you have correctly identified by call each of the members or former members in last months "Show and Tell", we can now move on to several other members who have added to the history of our club.

Once again a former member K4FW, Al don't confuse him with the present member K9FW, Al.

In the current issue of World Radio page 40 under the subtitle QCWA, there appears an interesting clip, "QSO's 72 years apart" Bob tells about two QSO's with Al Kahn now K4FW. The first was on 17 Nov 1923. Bob's call U8CWR and Al's was 9BBI. Their second QSO was 17 Nov 1995, 72 years later. Bob wrote on his 95 QSL, "72 years long time between QSO's! We should do it more often!" The early USA calls were "U" for United States.

Noticed an unusual adv. in the April issue of the Fort Wayne Chapter of SME paper offering "Electronic Repair Service, Meters, Mechanical, Microwave/RF, Radio, Oscilloscopes, Frequency. GTE Electronic Repair Services. Phone 219/482-6008." It appears we need more details.

Do you remember when Ken Bradley, W9AZC and Arnold Fountain, W9FXV were on the support team of a Sail plane group that operated out of Smith Field. QSO the other day with Ken. That group set several records of soaring from FW to Toledo, Bowling Green and W Va. Last year I had a call from W9FXV who is now on the East Coast. I recall the model A Ford they used for towing to become air born.

Now today's lesson. Meanwhile Marconi proceeded with his experiments. He increased his range, first to four miles. By the end of 1897 he had communicated between ships at sea ten miles apart. Space telegraphy was being definitely established as practical over short distances. In 1899 Marconi improved his receiver by utilizing Sir Oliver Lodge's device of inserting a transformer between the coherer and the aerial, and celebrated by bridging the English Channel, a distance of 30 miles, at

the invitation of the French government. In 1900 he came to realize the necessity of symmetry in the transmitting and receiving circuits, which represented an early form of syntony or tuning. Distances steadily increased. Finally, at the end of 1901, he was ready for the greatest test of all, spanning the Atlantic.

During this time amateur radio was already developing. It might be said, in truth, that all important development up to Marconi's time was amateur, or at best experimental. Surely Maxwell, Hertz, Lodge and others were more accurately amateurs, in the fundamental sense of the word, than anything else. Even the illustrious Senator Marconi, in these later days, likes to characterize himself as amateur, and that was certainly his status in the early days of his experiments, prior to June of 1896.

But there was others who could even more accurately be termed amateurs. They were mostly to be found in the United States, where the art of electrical experimentation by amateurs had already achieved a considerable popularity. In the later years of the nineteenth century there existed a considerable body of these experimenters, of all ages, who made small electromagnets, motors, batteries, static machines, erected neighborhood telegraph lines and built all the other experimental electrical apparatus within their ken -- purely as a hobby, and with no commercial interest whatsoever.

The fascinating new art of radio received many converts from their ranks. Particularly in the case of the neighborhood telegraphists did the possibility of signaling without cumbersome, expensive, deficient wires hold appeal. And in addition to those with an experimental background, there were many of the lay public to whom the romance of wireless caused irresistibly; a large proportion, perhaps a majority, of the early amateurs came directly from this group.

I can remember running a line over to the next street that had a parkway in center with trees.

The wire was then run south for one block to our friend, who later would become W8BKJ.

73,

W9TC

Morse 2000 - QCWA Journal

Morse 2000 is a group of people of all types of education who are using Morse code to help in rehabilitation and education. Their subjects are generally paralyzed individuals who want to try to do more than they have been accustomed to doing in the past. The first international conference was held in the fall of 1994 with people from a number of overseas countries. All of these participants agreed that the use of Morse code had great clinical applications. In 1997 there will be another conference, which again will be international in scope.

Their address is: morse2000@trace23.waisman.wisc.edu If you are interested they would probably be most happy to send you some literature. What they do is interface the individual with their computer, using some hardware, so that this individual can access the computer programs through the use of Morse. Some of the individuals have achieved 20 WPM and can handle not only word processing but graphics, engineering and CAD programs, as well as other areas that are necessary for an education. A number of studies have produced some very hard data for anyone to examine.

After some experience with the client, continuing consultation leads to a more refined system for operation and use. With the great increase in computers in the home and also access to the Internet, these persons are now able to properly join in these activities and be able to make contributions.

Imagine, we have those who think we should do away with Morse code and here is a group of people who are making very broad use of it to help people develop their learning skills. The story is related in one of the folders about one individual who entered into accounting in a Jr. college and then entered a university, finally obtaining a degree and subsequently passing the CPA exam. Not too many years ago this would have been impossible.

"Morse code is practical for persons with physical limitations because it is easy to pick up on its rhythmic patterns and operate devices using a single switch.", says Dr. King, who supervises one of the university clinics. Over 20 manufacturers now provide Morse-computer input hardware.

PLEASE RSVP FOR THE SPRING BANQUET - CALL JEAN at 637-6426

For Sale:

- * Popular Science 900MHz ATV Rcvr w/ Beam antenna \$65 Cliff 483-7570
- * IC720 HF Xcvr \$400 HTX202 2m HT \$85 Ernie 471-5824
- *EZ-Way 70ft crank-up/tilt over/full rotating tower \$700
- *Tridon 2000 439.25MHz ATV AM Transceiver \$200
- *Kenwood TH27A 2m HT w/ charger, remote mic. \$150 obo. Kris 486-7324



Due to computer hardware breakdowns, this month's newsletter is shorter than normal and was mailed late. Many thanks to Walt, N9AVR for helping with a short-notice power supply repair which enabled us to write this issue!

MAY HAMSPLATTER DEADLINE: April 29, 1996

Do you have an interesting article, news item, or cartoon which you can contribute to the Hamsplatter? Do you have some spare equipment collecting dust that you want to sell? If so, please contact me: Kris, KF9AW. My day phone is 487-3286, evenings 486-7324. Packet messages can be directed to me on 144.97 W9INX.

1996 MEMBERSHIP DATA: (Give this form to the treasurer at any FWRC meeting or mail to address below)

NAME _____ CALL _____ CLASS: N T G A E

MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE # () _____ WORK TELEPHONE # () _____

SHALL WE LIST YOUR ADDR/PHONE# IN MEMBER ROSTER? Y N ARRL MEMBER? Y N

MEMBERSHIP TERM: (JAN-DEC) (JULY-DEC, July 1-Dec 31 ONLY)

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$21.00/yr \$10.50/yr immediate family(list all calls)

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr licensed member

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$6.00/yr \$3.00/yr full time student

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: _____ \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr unlicensed member

YOUR CHECK NUMBER # _____ PLEASE PAY BY CHECK, IT'S EASIER FOR BOTH OF US!

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK (Request one from President at any Regular Club Meeting)
Provided at no cost to club members, this handbook provides a full set of information about present and past Club activities, events, and functions. The handbook is available in a clear cover binder, and is upgradeable by easy insertion of new pages into the three-hole binder. We will be issuing a new edition in May, 1995.

The Fort Wayne Radio Club - Celebrating 76 years of Service

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: CAROLE BURKE WB9RUS DAVE EVANS N9LOV
WALT WOOD N9AVR TODD HARGIS N9XRG

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April

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